

Honey...Honey...Lion!

K-3

Written and Illustrated by Jan Brett

Published by G. P. Putman's Sons

Story Summary

In Africa the honeyguide and the honey badger are partners. The honeyguide finds the honeycomb and the honey badger cracks it open with its strong claws. They share the sweetness, and that is the way it has always been. But this day, greedy Badger gulps down all the honey! Honeyguide is not happy. As the news spreads from animal to animal, Honeyguide hatches a plan. The next day she leads Badger off on a rollicking chase, but this time Badger is in for a not-so-sweet surprise.

Objectives

1. The children will develop an understanding of the difference between a true story and a legend.
2. The children will develop an understanding of how these two animals depend upon each other to survive.
3. The children will learn the meaning of a legend that teaches a lesson.

Before Viewing the Video

You will be seeing a video that is a story from Africa. Jan Brett, the author, and her husband have visited Botswana three times. There they were told the true story of the honeyguide and then the legend of the honeyguide and the badger. The legend is the story of what could happen to you if you do not share the honey. Ask the children to think about who they depend upon during the day. How do you treat people who help you? Discuss what is meant by a legend and a true story. As they watch the video, they should think about the lesson that is learned from this legend.

Questions to ask after viewing the video

1. Why does the badger need the honeyguide?
2. Why does the honeyguide need the badger?
3. How do they work together as partners?
4. When Badger will not share, how does Honeyguide get the idea to get even with Badger?
5. Why doesn't Badger care that Honeyguide is leading him through the papyrus and the bristle grass?
6. Even when Badger is tired and wet, itchy and sore, why does he keep going?
7. How does Honeyguide get revenge on Badger for not getting a fair share of the honey?
8. What does "the bush telegraph" mean?
9. What is the lesson that Badger learned from this adventure?

Activities

1. Create a list with the class describing the parts of this story that are true and the parts that are legend.
2. Have the children draw their favorite action scene from the book that includes the badger and the honeyguide. Write a sentence describing it.
3. Have the class find and name all of the animals seen in the illustrations.
4. Have the children write in their own words the lesson learned from this story. Have each child in the class talk about someone who helps them and how they show their appreciation.
5. Make a group collage depicting the jungle scenes in the book that include the animals and the vegetation in the illustration.